

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC(GROVE, THOMAS ARTHUR)

SUBJECT: W/W THOMAS ARTHUR GROVE

REF: A) KATHMANDU 1597 AND B) 1673

1. CONCERNING REQUEST IN REFTEL A, KATHY FERREIRA NOT RETURNED TO US; NO INFORMATION WHEN EXPECTED.
2. DEPARTMENT CONVEYED TO REV. GROVE CLARIFICATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL B. REV GROVE SERIOUSLY DISTURBED BY CONFLICTING PRESSURES; HE IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO SEARCH BEING UNDERTAKEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR TOM, BUT IS UNDERSTANDABLY RELUCTANT TO ASSUME MORAL AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SENDING OUT PRIVATE NON-PROFESSIONALS, EVEN WITH HIGHEST QUALIFICATIONS, WHO MAY IN TURN BECOME VICTIMS OF ACCIDENT OR ATTACK. HIS EARLIER UNDERSTANDING HAD BEEN THAT AL READ'S MOUNTAIN TRAVELS WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING AND SUPPORTING SEARCH, USING FUNDS REV. GROVE WOULD PUT AT ORGANIZATION'S DISPOSAL.
3. REV. GROVE REQUESTS THAT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BE CONVEYED TO AL READ AND DAVE SCHEINMAN: "WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR VOLUNTEER OF DAVE SCHEINMAN'S AND JOHN GUARDALABENE'S SERVICES IN SEARCH FOR TOM; HOWEVER WE WISH INFORMATION WHY ORIGINAL PLANS FOR TOM'S RESCUE MADE BY UNCLASSIFIED

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DR. ROBERT PARKER THE WEEK OF APRIL 4 THROUGH 10 WITH ALAN EASTHAM, GABRIEL CAMPBELL, AND AL READ HAVE BEEN CHANGED. ALSO HAS AL READ SANCTIONED THE CURRENT PROPOSAL BY DAVID SCHEINMAN AND JOHN GUARDALABENE? WITHOUT WISHING TO EXCLUDE MOUNTAIN TRAVELS, WE HOPE TO PROCEED WITH THESE CURRENT PLANS TO LOCATE TOM, WITH THE CONDITION THAT A ROUTINE SEARCH IS CONDUCTED AVOIDING DANGER TO THE PARTICIPANTS AND WITH NO EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES UNDERTAKEN. WE ARE UNFORTUNATELY UNABLE TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO UNLIMITED MEDICAL EXPENSES POSSIBLY INCURRED BY SEARCH PARTICIPANTS, AND THUS ARE INVESTIGATING INSURANCE COVERAGE AND WILL NOTIFY IMMEDIATELY WHEN ARRANGED. TYPICAL POLICY APPEARS TO BE COVERAGE FOR 21 DAYS WITH \$10,000 FOR LOSS OF LIFE AND \$1,000 FOR MEDICAL EXPENSES. THIS TYPE POLICY WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR MESSRS. SCHEINMAN AND GUARDALABENE, AND FOR JIM HICKS IF THEY WISH HIM ALONG, BUT WOULD INVOLVE THEIR SIGNED RELEASE FROM FURTHER LIABILITY FOR EXPENSES AND RESPONSIBILITY BEYOND THE INSURANCE LIMITS. NEEDED FOR POLICIES ARE FULL NAMES, AGES, HOME ADDRESSES; NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BENEFICIARIES; AND ALSO DATE OF DEPARTURE ON SEARCH. WE ASSUME THE NEPALI PORTERS WOULD NOT REQUIRE COVERAGE. PLEASE ADVISE IF THESE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE SATISFACTORY."

4. REV. GROVE ALSO RAISED QUESTION WHETHER LOCAL POLICE HAVE NOW DROPPED ACTIVE PART OF INVESTIGATION. HE HOPES THEY WILL CONTINUE ATTEMPTS TO TRACE TWO NEPALESE MENTIONED PARA 1, KATHMANDU 1488. ROBINSON

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